TOP SECRET

[redacted]

(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

[redacted]

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

20 September 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR ADMIRAL MURPHY, D/DCI/IC

SUBJECT: Modification of the Classification and Dissemination Controls for the Products of Reconnaissance Satellites

[redacted]

I have had the opportunity to informally review the paper prepared for Mr. Bush to sign to the President on the above subject. I had the distinct impression from my discussions with Mr. Bush at the NFIB meeting that I would be given an opportunity to resolve a number of concerns I had with the paper. I note here three points which I believe merit modification before the paper goes forward.

First, the paper states that there is no evidence that removal of some of the products of satellite reconnaissance from special security controls has in any way jeopardized the ability of the Program to continue to provide intelligence. I believe this overstates the case, for there is increasing evidence that the Soviets are working in the area of [redacted] so, there has been observed somewhat [redacted] Since we do not know the motives behind these Soviet actions, I suggest that this statement would be better left out of the paper.

The second point is that I do not believe the pro and con arguments are sufficiently well articulated.

The third point, which I consider very important, is the omission of a statement which appeared in the 1 July 1976 draft of this paper. The last sentence assured that if the President granted the requested authority, there would still be an airing of objections before policy changes were implemented. I believe this statement should be retained in the final memorandum. By virtue of point two, I believe additional discussion is warranted before a final decision is reached [redacted]

Charles W. Cook
Deputy Director

[redacted] CLASSIFIED [redacted] EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652 EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5B2 DECLASSIFY ON IMP DET.

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Comments